(b) The said workers were brought from the open market and engaged by the Handling and Transport Contractors according to their choice and suitability for work in the FCI depots. They were being employed and paid by the contractors for the work done. Hence, there was no question of retrenching any of these workers of contractors by the FCI.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

**Number of passengers in AC**

1629. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the complete details of carrying capacity and number of passengers travelled in First AC, 2AC and 3AC in trains originating/ terminating from/at Ahmedabad, Delhi, Chennai, Bangalore, Kolkata, Mumbai and Guwahati during first six months of 2004, train-wise and sector-wise;

(b) what are the details of percentage utilization, class-wise on these trains, train-wise and sector-wise; and

(c) what are the earning to Railways from the above trains during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) The desired information is not maintained.

**Procurement of rice and wheat**

1630. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) what was the target set for procurement of rice and wheat in the year 2004, State-wise;

(b) how it is going to be procured or achieved; and

(c) if the target is not achieved the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) (a) No target are set for procurement of rice and wheat by the Government of India. However, the State-wise estimates of procurement of rice for Kharif Marketing Season 2004-05 is indicated in the enclosed-I Statement (*see* below). In respect of wheat, the procurement season (Rabi Marketing Season 2004-05) have come to a close and the quantities procured State-wise is indicated in the enclosed-II (*see* below).

(b) Arrangements have already been made for the procurement of rice (including paddy) by FCI and the State Agencies by opening procurement centres all over the country.

(c) Does not arise.

***Statement-I***

*Estimated Procurement of Rice (Kms 2004-05)*

*(Quantity in lakh tonnes)*

| State | Estimated Procurement of Rice (Kms 2004-05) |
|---|---|
| Madhya Pradesh | 2.00 |
| Chhattisgarh | 22.00 |
| Bihar | 6.00 |
| West Bengal | 10.00 |
| Maharashtra | 3.00 |
| Punjab | 5.00 |
| Haryana | 12.00 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 20.00 |
| Orissa | 13.00 |
| Uttaranchal | 3.00 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 45.00 |
| Tamil Nadu | 5.00 |
| Others | 2.00 |
| TOTAL: | 225.00 |

***Statement-II***

*Procurement of Wheat (RMS 2004-05)*

*(Quantity in lakh tonnes)*

| State | Procurement of Wheat |
|---|---|
| Bihar | 0.15 |
| Delhi | 0.02 |
| Haryana | 51.15 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 3.49 |
| Punjab | 92.40 |
| Rajasthan | 2.79 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 17.41 |
| Uttaranchal | 0.54 |
| Others | 0.01 |
| TOTAL: | 167.96 |

**Transit loss in Railways**

1631. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether major transit losses of foodgrains are caused on account of lack of proper foodgrain booking arrangement in Railways;

(b) whether it is a fact that generally Railways do not issue any receipt of their own and thus foodgrains are transported at the risk of the Ministry;

(c) if so, whether the Ministry propose to install their own weighing bridges at the stations at their own cost;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and